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Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot

Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Greenville, South Carolina

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$250,000 over two years) to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. CTC's assessment pilot partner is the City of Greenville Brownfields Assessment Pilot. The City of Greenville also is a member of a State of South Carolina Coalition that received a Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilot. The Job Training Pilot will focus on the portion of the City just west of the downtown, known as the West Greenville/Reedy River Corridor. This area also is the focus of the Brownfields Assessment Pilot. Half of the residents in the West Greenville/Reedy River Corridor are minorities. One-third of the residents live in poverty, and the average annual income is approximately half of the citywide average.

The West Greenville/Reedy River Corridor was the textile center of the region in the early 1800s. With the decline in the textile industry and development of the eastern part of the city in the mid-1900s, the Corridor fell into economic decline. The Corridor remains blighted by a number of abandoned and underused industrial properties, including several large textile facilities. As the City works to redevelop brownfields

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Greenville, South Carolina

Date of Announcement:

December 2001

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot will train 75 students as environmental technicians. Students will be recruited from unemployed and underemployed residents of the West Greenville/Reedy River Corridor, an area just west of downtown Greenville blighted by abandoned textile mills.

Contacts:

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Regional Brownfields Team U.S. EPA - Region 4 (404)562-8660

Visit the EPA Region 4 Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/region4/

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/ in the Corridor, employers are expecting to expand their operations. Surveys of employers in the Greenville area indicate a strong demand for entry-level environmental technicians.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

CTC plans to train 75 students, achieve an 80% graduation rate, achieve an 80% placement rate among graduates, and support career placement of graduates for one year after the training is completed. Students will be recruited from unemployed and underemployed residents of the West Greenville/Reedy River Corridor. The 260-hour Pilot training program will consist of sampling, OSHA regulations (including general industry standards for safety and health), HAZWOPER, heavy equipment operation and safety, and innovative technology courses.

The training efforts of CTC will be supported by organizations such as Greenville Technical College, City of Greenville, Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Greenville County Workforce Investment Board, Onsite Environmental Staffing, SHARE, and

U.S. Department of Labor. In addition to the 260-hour training program, additional courses will be offered for certificates and Continuing Education Units.

ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting outreach to recruit unemployed and underemployed residents of the West Greenville/ Reedy River Corridor;
- Conducting training for entry-level positions as brownfields technicians, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Supporting career placement of students for one year after the job training is completed.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.